

Coast Guard's current ability to respond and operate effectively in a hazardous threat environment.

The bill also directs the Coast Guard to lead the effort to enforce security zones around vessels carrying certain hazardous cargos, such as liquefied natural gas, as well as to increase the number of detection canine teams responsible for maritime-related security.

As the Chair of the Subcommittee on Border, Maritime, and Global Counterterrorism, I am particularly pleased that this legislation includes strong provisions to protect our nation's maritime border.

The bill authorizes the America's Waterway Watch Program—a "see it, say it" maritime domain awareness program that encourages the reporting of suspicious activities on and around our waterways to the Coast Guard.

Additionally, it authorizes the Mobile Biometric Identification Program, a program that will enhance border security by providing the Coast Guard with state-of-the-art biometric technology to help identify individuals interdicted at sea.

The bill will require the Coast Guard to develop a comprehensive strategy to combat the illicit flow of narcotics, weapons, bulk cash and other contraband through the use of submersible and semi-submersible vessels.

Drug trafficking organizations are constructing these vessels for the purpose of bringing narcotics from South America to the United States, and their efforts are becoming increasingly sophisticated.

Even more troubling is the thought that such vessels could be used to smuggle terrorists or their weapons into our country.

The Coast Guard's development of a comprehensive strategy to detect and interdict these vessels will be a key component of our effort to defeat these drug trafficking organizations.

Our Nation demands more from the Coast Guard now than at any other time in the Service's over 200-year history.

During these challenging times, it is critical that we ensure that the Coast Guard has the resources necessary to fulfill its homeland security mission requirements.

Passage of H.R. 3619 will provide the Coast Guard with the long-term tools that are needed in this post-9/11 world. Therefore, I urge my colleagues to join me in giving this important resolution their full support.

HONORING MONTVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Montville Fire Department located in the Township of Morris, Morris County, New Jersey as it celebrates its 100th Anniversary this year.

Established in 1910 as the Excelsior Fire Company by Mr. John Capstick, the Montville Fire Department has long been representative of bravery and generosity. In just their first year, the fire department boasted an impressive 29 volunteers. Their first drill was performed on September 24, 1910 with Horace Eagan as their chief. On October 1, 1910,

thanks to the efforts of Mr. Capstick, the department was able to purchase their first vehicle: a horse-drawn hook and ladder truck. A few months later, on February 6, 1911, the volunteer firemen constructed their first firehouse with materials donated by Mr. Capstick. On November 6, 1911 the Township Committee took control of the fire department.

When John Capstick passed away in 1918, the department went through a period of financial instability. After reorganizing into different zones the fire department elected five fire commissioners on August 27, 1921. The fire department sold bonds in order to raise money to purchase its first motorized vehicle in 1922. The fire department participated in their first parade on June 3, 1931 as a part of the North Jersey Volunteer Firemen's Association Parade. The fire department upgraded in 1932 to the Buffalo fire truck which provided them with state of the art equipment, for that time period. Then, due to a generous donation by the Ladies Auxiliary, the Montville Fire Department was able to construct a new firehouse.

The 1950s saw two big expansions for the Montville Fire Department. First, in 1952 came the addition of two International 500 GPM high pressure pump trucks to their fleet. Three years later they established the Excelsior Fire Company No. 2 to better cover the hills of the Taylortown district. The Montville Fire Department eventually sold their famed Buffalo fire truck to a private company; however in 1976, the fire department repurchased and restored the vehicle. The Buffalo fire truck is still owned by the department and since the restoration project has received hundreds of trophies.

The Montville Fire Department has always been a leader in innovation. They were the first department in Northern New Jersey to win the National Fire Prevention Award. In 1957 the department was awarded for organizing one of the first Junior Fire Marshal programs in the Nation. They also were the first department to distribute reflectors to invalids and to spray Christmas trees with fire retardant.

Today, the Montville Fire Department boasts an impressive five fire trucks and responds to a wide array of emergencies. The success of volunteer fire departments such as this one is vital to the security of millions of Americans.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Montville Fire Department as they celebrate 100 years of committed service.

HONORING THE REOPENING OF THE YANKEE AIR MUSEUM

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Yankee Air Museum, a marvelous museum located in the 15th Congressional District, in celebration of its reopening. Originally created in 1981 for the purpose of preserving Willow Run's aviation history, Yankee Air Museum has acquired and restored an original U.S. Army Air Force hangar, as well as a B-24 Privateer. Over the years the Yankee Air Museum has come to serve as a reminder of our country's manufacturing might.

Since obtaining the B-24 in 1987, the Yankee Air Museum has acquired five planes from

the World War II era that have since been restored to flying status, including a Douglas C-47, B-17 Flying Fortress, B-25 Mitchell, and two Taylorcraft L-2 Liaisons. The museum has also collected various retired aircraft, including a B-52 Stratofortress, in addition to various artifacts, including photographs, books and uniforms that preserve and display the aviation history of the State of Michigan.

Sadly, on October 9, 2004, the Yankee Air Museum suffered a fire that destroyed much of the history that the museum had sought to preserve. Historic artifacts, photos, books, as well as retired aircraft, were lost in the blaze. After 6 years of hard work by the Yankee Air Museum members, the museum is set to reopen on October 9, 2010, with three of their operational aircraft—the B-17, C-47 and B-25—in working condition. The reopening of the Museum will be followed by an Inaugural Gala and a public grand opening celebration.

I am proud of the Yankee Air Museum's many contributions to Michigan's 15th Congressional District and ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Museum on its inspirational reopening Celebration.

HONORING DR. THOMAS SVITKOVICH

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Thomas Svitkovich on his retirement as Superintendent of the Genesee Intermediate School District. A reception in his honor will be held tonight in Flint Michigan.

Dr. Thomas Svitkovich has been an educator for 46 years, starting in 1964. He started as a mathematics teacher, and has served as a junior high principal, a high school assistant principal, a high school principal, an associate superintendent, a deputy superintendent, and as a superintendent. In his capacity as the GSD Superintendent, he led the development of the Genesee Early College, GSD's Transition Center for adult students with disabilities, the Genesee County Great Start Collaborative, the statewide Seat-Time Waiver, and implementation of shared-services programs with local school districts. Under his leadership, Genesee Intermediate School District has gained a reputation for excellence and has received numerous state and national awards, including in the areas of overall administration, technology, and distance learning. Dr. Svitkovich has shared his knowledge of the education field by writing articles, making presentations and advocating on both the state and national level.

An active member of the community, Dr. Svitkovich has strengthened the bonds between education and the community to better prepare students for their future role in our society. He has established strong relationships with non-profits, health and human services agencies and the business community.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Dr. Thomas Svitkovich on his retirement from the Genesee intermediate School District. I wish him the best in his future endeavors.